Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 00247 141108Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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R 141049Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 751

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 0247

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MO, PFOR

SUBJECT: IMPENDING TRANSFER OF AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB

1. AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB TELEPHONED ME LATE JANUARY 13
FOLLOWING HIS SECOND MEETING WITH KING IN PAST 48 HOURS
TO SAY HE WOULD SOON BE TRANSFERRED TO RABAT WORKING
DIRECTLY FOR HASSAN "IN A HIGH CAPACITY". HE WISHES THIS
INFORMATION KEPT CONFIDENTIAL PENDING PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
IN NEAR FUTURE, BUT WANTED YOU TO HAVE ADVANCE WORD. HE
EXPECTS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 18 AFTER WHICH
HE WILL ADVISE YOU OFFICIALLY OF HIS NEW POSITION AND
HOPEFULLY THE NAME OF HIS PROPOSED SUCCESSOR. ON LATTER
POINT, BOUTALEB SAID KING HAD NOT GIVEN HIM ANY INDICATION
OF WHO HIS SUCCESSOR MIGHT BE.

2. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF CONFIDENCE BOUTALEB ENJOYS WITH KING, I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE HIM TAKE OVER THE KEY, SUBSTANTIVE JOB OF CABINET DIRECTOR IN THE PALACE. AS FOR HIS REPLACEMENT IN WASHINGTON, WE HAVE HEARD THAT ALI BENJELLOUN, CURRENT MOROCCAN PERMREP IN NEW YORK, IS A POSSIBILITY. THIS WOULD MAKE EMINENT SENSE AS BENJELLOUN KNOWS WASHINGTON WELL FROM HIS FORMER SERVICE THERE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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HAS RENEWED HIS MANY ASSOCIATIONS SINCE ARRIVING IN NEW YORK LAST SUMMER.
ANDERSON

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
NNN					

Message Attributes

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Subject: IMPENDING TRANSFER OF AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PDIP, MO, (BOUTALEB, ABDELHADI)

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